

REMARKS

Claim Rejections - 35 U.S.C. §§ 102 and 103

The Examiner has rejected claims 1, 14, 18, 22, 26, and 30-32 under 35 USC 102(e) as being anticipated by Mandal et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,238,735). The Examiner has rejected claims 2-13, 15-17, 19-21, 23-25 and 27-29 under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over Mandal et al. ('735) in view of Chun et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,191,053). The Applicant respectfully traverses. The cited references do not teach or render obvious the element of independent claim 1 of "controlling a solvent vapor concentration of a control gas to be between approximately 42% and 80%." In contrast, Mandal fails to teach the solvent vapor concentration of a control gas and instead teaches the relative humidity of a **solvent-free** humid gas in the range of 40% and 45% (see claims 6 and 8 and Col. 6 lines 29 – 32.) The position of the Examiner is that the solvent vapor concentration is directly related to the relative humidity of the gas and one of ordinary skill in the art would expect the solvent vapor pressure of the gas to at least overlap with the required range since the relative humidity of the gas is the same. The Applicant respectfully submits that the solvent vapor concentration and the relative humidity of the gas as taught by Mandal cannot be the same because the relative humidity of Mandal is for a solvent-free humid gas. Additionally, Chun fails to teach a solvent vapor concentration within a deposition chamber. Therefore, the Applicant respectfully submits that independent claim 1 and claims 2 – 32 that depend upon and incorporate the elements of claim 1 are not anticipated or rendered obvious by Mandal or Chun, either individually or in combination.

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If there are any additional charges, please charge Deposit Account No. 02-2666.

Respectfully submitted,

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